

Public Parade

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proved a hard act to follow since the conference had earlier heard from the chancellor of University of Wisconsin Extension and the UW president.

During a layover in Chicago on Tuesday afternoon we took a bus into the city. While waiting for the elevator in the fabulous Water Tower Place, our navigator and roommate for the trip, remarked: "I know that man." Sure she did, it was John Anderson, the Independent candidate for President in 1980.

The trip back to O'Hare Airport was via taxi. The driver was a Marian Sierzputowski, a Polish immigrant who predicted the Soviet invasion of his native land in the next 30 days. "If Carter was still in it would have already happened," he said. "President Reagan and the Polish Pope are strong men. They work together."

We were more interested in getting back to the airport in one piece than having a lecture on political science. But we made it and there was no extra charge for the information.

Gosh, it's good to be home!

Acceptable Act

House Bill 747, introduced by Rep. Vernon James of the Isle of Pasquotank has been amended and is acceptable to people along the Public Parade. The bill as it now reads extends the Chowan River Basin Study to include the Albemarle Sound.

The pollution problem in the Chowan River has rapidly spread to some lower reaches of the Albemarle Sound. To investigate one without paying equal attention to the other is an exercise in futility.

The original bill put into the legislative hopper by Rep. James would have established just another study group in an already much too long list. With a vigorous expression of concern and pledges of support from local government along the Public Parade, the bill was expanded.

We were highly critical of the first brush by Rep. James to focus attention on a continuing basis on the water quality in the river, not to mention the sound. He just didn't go far enough.

Now, however, Rep. James has proven himself as being sensitive to the needs and even in a General Assembly where knives are more evident than shovels he is seeking sufficient funds over the biennium to support the Legislative Commission the bill would establish.

Furthermore, the Department of Natural Resources & Community Development will support the commission's efforts with the drafting of an Albemarle Sound Restoration Project. The department will need funds to carry out this section of the bill and it should be appropriated for that specific purpose. Included is a fulltime project manager, who would coordinate federal, state and local efforts.

Water is probably our most precious resource, unless it is our people. The local cries have been off and on since 1972, and more on recently than off. Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., has placed the Chowan River and Albemarle Sound at the top of his environmental priority list. The DNR&CD has responded as often and as much as possible. The General Assembly, through



AWARDED FOR SAFETY — Sixteen consecutive years of no lost time accidents at Ricks Laundry on Church Street were lauded by Labor Commissioner John C. Brooks during a safety awards program sponsored last Wednesday night by the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Ann Cano, office manager, and Arthur Charbonneau, plant manager, are shown above displaying a certificate attesting to their safety record, cited as the best in the Albemarle Area. Other local businesses and industries awarded for one or more years of safety included, Carter's Ink, Atlantic Forest Products, Chowan Veneer Company, P. H. Rose Store, The Chowan Herald and Tee-Lok Corp.

Registration Card

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license plate renewal card.

The license plate agency in Chowan County is operated by Mrs. Jeanette Dowd and is located at the Carolina Trailways Bus Station, 810, North Broad Street, Edenton.

HB 747, is getting into the act. Welcome aboard, even if the water leaves a lot to be desired.

Guest Editorial

The announcement this week that the world's first plant to produce methanol from peat will be built in the eastern part of the state means another major industrial development for North Carolina.

The plant will employ 200 people.

But all of us should take note that to create those 200 new jobs, the company will have to spend \$250-million. That's more than a million dollars per job! And that kind of money ... in this case and in most others ... ultimately comes from personal savings.

That's why personal savings are so important, and why we believe that government tax policies should encourage them.

We hear many speeches these days about the need for private enterprise to create new jobs; but few of the speakers remind us of the high cost of creating new jobs these days.

All this is another good reason that President Reagan should not back off from his plan to provide tax incentives that encourage business to create new jobs.

Such incentives are among the best things government can do to help the economy.

Joel Lawhon
WRAL-TV

Funds Allotted For Day Care

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day care for the first time ever," said Fesmire.

She also indicated that the largest share of the funds allocated for day care are federal Title XX funds. "With all the budget-cutting recommendations going on in Washington and the federal fiscal year running from October through September, there is no way to be sure how much North Carolina's federal allocation will be for July 1, 1981 through June 30, 1982. We are hoping to receive at least as much as we did for the current fiscal year. The current federal law governing Title XX funding actually allows for an increase in the current ceiling on these funds for 1981-82."

"There is a growing need for government financial assistance

in helping to purchase day care for these children so their parents can work and not have to depend on welfare for their livelihood," Fesmire said.

Governor Awards

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detailed survey that is now underway.

The N. C. Energy Institute sponsors research aimed at helping North Carolina build a secure energy future. The institute was created by Governor Hunt in 1978, and has since sponsored more than 60 energy research projects.

The projects cover such topics as energy storage, hydropower, peat, solar energy, waste recycling, wood energy, co-generation and conservation.

Lewis Assumes Corporate Post

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manufacturing and retailing firm. Prior to joining Conner, Lewis was Vice President, Roy H. Park Broadcasting Co., Inc. and General Manager of television station WNCT-TV Channel 9, Greenville, N. C.

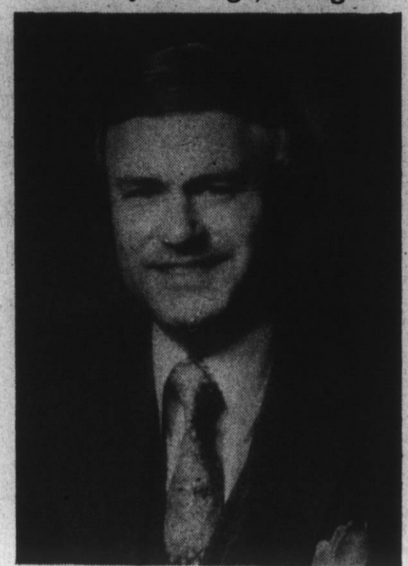
In making the announcement, Mr. Conner stated, "Blake Lewis has worked with us on our advertising program for over 15 years and has seen our company grow from (1) sales center in 1959 to nearly one hundred (100) in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia now. We're pleased to have a man with his broadcast and sales background join our great management team."

Lewis, a native of Washington, North Carolina and a Mason, being a member of Orr Lodge No. 104 and Washington York Rite Bodies, a member of Washington First United Methodist Church, immediate past chairman of the Administrative Board, and past president of the Hackney Sunday School Class.

Lewis was recently re-elected Chairman of the Historic Bath Commission. The commission is

appointed by the Governor of North Carolina and works jointly with the Office of Archives and History in acquisitions and needs for restoration in North Carolina's oldest town, Bath.

Lewis is married to the former Mary Jo Hoover of Batesburg, South Carolina, and they have two children Blake, III, a student at Beaufort Community College and Mary Leigh, a rising senior at Saint Mary's College, Raleigh.

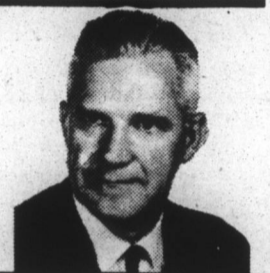


Blake C. Lewis, Jr.

NORTH CAROLINA Farm Tips

From
Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., N.A.

By Dr. J. W. Pou



Unprecedented growth occurred in U.S. agricultural exports during the 1970s.

The nation's shipments of farm products abroad rose in value from \$7 billion in fiscal 1970 to an astounding \$40.5 billion in fiscal 1980—almost a sixfold increase, say extension economists at North Carolina State University.

This was a global agricultural development of such magnitude that it is difficult to imagine how anyone could have foreseen it. It was also a development that affected the lives of all Americans.

Beginning in 1979, North Carolina was among the states that exported more than \$1 billion in farm commodities annually. That year, the Tar Heel state's share of exports was \$1.153 billion, of which unmanufactured tobacco accounted for nearly \$670 million.

Rising prices per pound, per bushel, or per bale—have contributed substantially to higher export values. For most commodities, however, the volume of shipments also has risen sharply.

This past year, for example, per-unit prices on U.S. shipments of grains, oilseeds and their products rose 9 percent. But volume gained 19 percent, resulting in a 28 percent jump in the combined export value of grains and oilseeds.

U.S. wheat exports last year hit 36.1 million tons, breaking a record set in 1973 when the Soviet Union engaged in its first massive wave of U.S. grain buying.

Feedgrain exports were an unprecedented 71.2 million tons in fiscal 1980. Of this total, corn accounted for 61.4 million tons and sorghum 8.2 million. Major gains were recorded in exports to Japan, Mexico, Spain, Eastern Europe and South America.

Soybean exports in fiscal 1980 rose to 23.8 million tons, not a new record but well above the previous year. Japan was the largest individual buying country.

Cotton exports fell sharply last August and September but still managed to set a new record of slightly under 2 million bales valued at \$1,519 per ton. Except for Canada, the major cotton markets were the Asian textile producers.

Following an early season decline, tobacco exports recovered toward the end of the fiscal year and nearly equaled the volume shipped in fiscal 1978. A 6 percent increase in price, to \$4,770 per ton, resulted in a total value gain of 4 percent.

Exports of animals and products totaled \$3.8 billion in fiscal 1980, up 3.5 percent from the previous year. Poultry exports showed the most dramatic increase—48 percent—to \$546 million.

In fiscal 1980, dramatic changes occurred among leading markets for U.S. farm products, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Japan remained the No. 1 outlet, as U.S. farm exports there reached \$5.8 billion. But shipments to the Soviet Union dropped from \$2.2 billion in fiscal 1979 to \$1.5 billion, largely as a result of the U.S. embargo placed on grain shipments to Russia.

The Netherlands moved into the No. 2 position previously held by the USSR.

Mexico, newly rich with oil, skyrocketed from ninth largest market for U.S. farm goods in fiscal 1979 to third largest. U.S. shipments there hit \$2 billion in a wave of Mexican buying to compensate for drought-reduced grain and oilseed crops and to satisfy rising domestic demand.

The People's Republic of China, with purchases of \$1.95 billion, was close on Mexico's heels. Sharp growth in U.S. sales of cotton, wheat and soybeans led to a more than doubling of exports from fiscal 1979 to this past year.

Projections indicate the value of U.S. agricultural exports during the current fiscal year will rise to \$48 billion, which would set a new record for the 12th year in a row.

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